

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are in the instant application of which claims 1, 12, 21, 22 and 26 are amended to more positively recited applicants' patentably novel transparency having a heatable wiper rest area; claim 8 is cancelled without prejudice to reduce the issues, and claim 30 is added to set forth applicants' patentable novel transparency in varying scope. No claims are allowed or indicated allowable.

The specification is objected as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the term "the conductive member has a parallelepiped shape" recited in claim 26, which term the Office Action alleges has never been described in the specification. Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to the specification, however, to eliminate this issue claim 26 is amended to recite that "the conductive member has four sides." The recitation is broader in scope and is supported in the drawing, in particular in Figs. 2 and 6.

Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request admission of the amendment to claim 26, consideration of claim 26 and withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9, 11-16, 18-20, 22, 23, 25-27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos et al U.S. Patent No. 5,824,993 (hereinafter also referred to as "Chrysochoos") in view of Pinchok et al U.S. Patent No. 5,886,321 (hereinafter also referred to as "Pinchok") and further in view of Carter et al U.S. Patent No. 4,918,288 (hereinafter also referred to as "Carter"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 9, 11-16, 18-20, 22, 23, 25-27 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and further in view of Carter, however to eliminate this issue the following action has been taken.

Claim 1 is an independent claim, having claims 2-5, 7, 9, 11 and 25-27 dependent thereon; claim 12 is an independent claim having claims 13-16, 18-20 and 29 dependent thereon, and claim 22 is an independent claim having claim 23 dependent thereon. Claims 1, 12, 22 and 26 are amended to more positively recite applicants' patentably novel transparency.

More particularly, claim 1 is amended to include, among other things, selected features of claim 8. Support for the amendments to claim 1 is found among other places in the drawing and in claim 8. The amendment to claim 26 was discussed above. Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request admission of the amendment to claims 1 and 26, and reconsideration of claims 1-5, 7, 9, 11 and 25-27.

Claim 8 is not rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and further in view of Carter. Therefore amending claim 1 to recite, among other things, the feature of claim 8 relating to the three bus bars overcomes the rejection of claim 1, and the rejection of claims 2-5, 7, 9, 11 and 25-27, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and further in view of Carter.

Claim 12 having claims 13-16, 18-20 and 29 dependent thereon is amended to recite, among other things, that a heating arrangement for heating the wiper rest area includes, among other things, a plurality of bus bars positioned in spaced relationship to one another along, and in electrical contact with, the conductive member, wherein the plurality of bus bars divides the conductive member into a plurality of adjacent discrete heatable areas; a first lead electrically interconnecting ones of the plurality of bus bars having two adjacent discrete heatable areas and one of the plurality of bus bars therebetween at a position adjacent the first side of the conductive member, the first lead extending along the first side of the conductive member; a second lead electrically interconnecting ones of the plurality of bus bars having two adjacent discrete heatable areas and one of the plurality of bus bars connected to the first lead therebetween, or to electrically connect one of

the plurality of bus bars between a pair of adjacent ones of the plurality of bus bars connected to the first lead at a position adjacent the first side of the conductive member, the second lead extending along the first side of the conductive member. Support for the amendment to claim 12 is found among other places in the claims presently in the application, and in Figs. 2 and 6 of the drawing. Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully requests admission of the amendment to claim 12 and consideration of claims 12-16, 18-20 and 29.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching in Chrysochoos, Pinchok and/or Carter of at least three spaced bus bars along a conductive member; therefore, the disclosure of Chrysochoos Pinchok and/or Carter can not render the features of claims 12-16, 18-20 and 29 obvious.

Claim 22 having claim 23 dependent thereon is amended to recite, among other things, the steps of positioning a first lead on the opaque band and along the first side of the coating to electrically interconnect ones of the plurality of bus bars having two adjacent discrete heatable areas separated by one of the plurality of bus bars not connected to the first lead, and positioning a second lead along the opaque band and along the first side of the coating to electrically interconnect ones of the plurality of bus bars having two adjacent discrete heatable areas and one of the plurality of bus bars connected to the first lead, or to electrically connect one of the plurality of bus bars between a pair of adjacent ones of the plurality of bus bars connected to the first lead, such that moving current through the first and second leads, and the bus bars moves current across the discrete areas to heat the discrete areas, wherein a portion of the first lead and a portion of the second lead overlay each other. Support for the amendment to claim 22 is found among other places in the claims presently in the applicants and in Figs.2 and 6 of the drawing. Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request admission of the amendment to claim 22 and consideration of claims 22 and 23.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is not teaching in Chrysochoos Pinchok and/or Carter of the positioning steps recited in claim 22 requiring, among other things, at least three bus bars spaced along a conductive member; therefore, the disclosure of Chrysochoos Pinchok and/or Carter can not render the features of claims 22 and 23 obvious.

Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 9, 11-16, 18-20, 22, 23, 25-27 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and further in view of Carter, and respectfully request allowance of claims 1-5, 7, 9, 11-16, 18-20, 22, 23, 25-27 and 29.

Claims 6, 17, 24 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Holzer et al U.S. Patent No. 5,099,104 (hereinafter also referred to as "Holzer"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 6, 17, 24 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Holzer and request reconsideration thereof.

Claim 6 is dependent on claim 1; claims 17 and 28 are dependent on claim 12 and claim 24 is dependent on claim 22. Claims 1, 12 and 22, and Chrysochoos, Pinchok and Carter were discussed above.

Applicants in the above discussion clearly showed that there are no teachings in Chrysochoos, Pinchok and/or Carter of applicants' patentably novel transparency recited in claims 1, 12 and 22. Applicants respectfully submit that Holzer does not cure the defects of Chrysochoos, Pinchok and Carter, more particularly there is no teaching in Holzer of a heatable area having three or more bus bars spaced along a conductive coating.

Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6, 17, 24 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and

further in view of Holzer, and respectfully request allowance of claims 6, 17, 24 and 28.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Tarnopol et al U.S. Patent No. 3,772,075 (hereinafter also referred to as "Tarnopol"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Tarnaopol and request reconsideration thereof.

Claim 10 is indirectly dependent on claim 1; claim 1, Chrysochoos, Pinchok and Carter were discussed above.

Applicants in the above discussion clearly showed that there are no teachings in Chrysochoos, Pinchok and/or Carter of applicants' patentably novel transparency recited in claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Tarnopol does not cure the defects of Chrysochoos, Pinchok and Carter, more particularly there is no teaching in Tarnopol of three or more bus bars spaced along a conductive coating.

Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Tarnopol, and respectfully request allowance of claim 10.

Claims 8 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Koontz et al U.S. Patent No. 5,877,473 (hereinafter also referred to as "Koontz"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 8 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Koontz and request reconsideration thereof.

Claim 8 dependent on claim 1 is cancelled without prejudice, and the feature of claim 8 relating to three spaced bus bars is recited in claim 1. Claim 21 is dependent on claim 12, and claim 21 is amended to recite, among other things, that the first lead interconnects the first and third bus bars, and the portion of the first lead overlaps the portion of the second lead adjacent the connected side of the conductive member. Support for the amendment to claim 21 is found, among other places in Figs. 2 of the drawing. Based on the foregoing applicants respectfully request admittance and consideration of amended claim 21. Claims 1 and 12, Chrysochoos, Pinchok and Carter were discussed above.

The Office Action alleges that Chrysochoos in view of Carter teaches substantially the claimed invention, but does not teach at least three spaced bus bars, and that Koontz discloses four bus bars 106-109. The Office Action alleges that it would have been obvious in view of Carter to include additional spaced bus bars to electrically connect them to different power sources as taught by Koontz (col. 9, lines 26-35).

Applicants respectfully submit that an artisan combining the references would not change the path of the bus bars 110 and 112 such that portions of the bus bars overlap; further, there is no teaching in Koontz that portions of leads connected to the bus bar overlap. These features not disclosed in Koontz are recited in applicants' claims 1, 12 and 21. More particularly, that portions of a first lead connected to selected bus bars, and portions of a second lead connected to selected one or more bus bars overlap. Since there is no teaching in Chrysochoos, Pinchok, Carter and/or Koontz of an insulation between overlapping portions of leads, Chrysochoos, Pinchok, Carter and Koontz cannot render claims 1, 12 and 21 obvious.

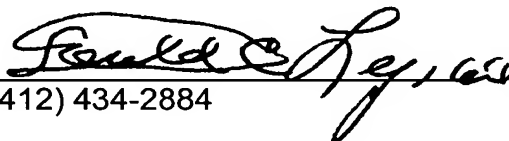
Based on the foregoing, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chrysochoos in view of Pinchok and Carter and further in view of Koontz, and respectfully request allowance of claims 1, 12 and 21.

Applicants by the amendment have added new claim 30 dependent on claim 1. Support for new claim 30 is found, among other places in Fig. 6. The arguments put forth to patentably distinguish claim 1 over the art of record is applicable, among others, to patentably distinguish claim 30 over similar art. Based on the forgoing, applicants respectfully request admission, consideration and allowance of claim 30.

This amendment represents a sincere effort to place the application in condition for allowance. In the event issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Andrew Siminerio Attorney of Record at (412) 434-4645, or the undersigned to discuss those issues before further action is taken on the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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